



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

Esopus & Plattekill Creeks Watershed Reconnaissance Study

**Flood Damage Reduction and
Environmental Restoration**

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: The New York District Corps of Engineers has initiated a Federally-funded reconnaissance level study to determine if Federal interest in watershed-based flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, navigation and other allied water resources problems and opportunities are advisable for the Esopus and Plattekill Creeks Watershed, New York.

In light of the recurrence of fluvial flood damage over the past several years, including flooding, erosion, navigation impacts and road washouts from the storms of October 2005 and April 2007 the Corps of Engineers will examine the entire watershed. These storms resulted in damages to properties and businesses in the communities within the watershed, such as the City of Kingston, Village of Saugerties, and Towns of Hurley, Shandaken, Marbletown, Woodstock, Saugerties and Ulster, as well as many smaller hamlets.

This reconnaissance study will examine the current field conditions and study criteria to determine whether any watershed-based opportunities for flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, navigation or other allied purposes exist for continued Federal participation during detailed evaluation and construction. As part of this study, the water resources problem(s) in the area will be identified as will potential solutions to the problem(s). Determination of Federal interest in the project will be based on the preliminary screening of alternatives, specifically the costs, benefits, and environmental impacts of those alternatives, as well as the extent of support by local officials and interested parties. If continued study and project development by the Federal government is justified, this study will be followed by a more detailed cost-shared feasibility-level study.

AUTHORIZATION: The New York District Corps of Engineers is conducting the study under authority of a resolution adopted on September 20, 2006 by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives.

STATUS: The District initiated the Reconnaissance Phase in September. A stakeholder meeting was held by the District in November 2008. The draft 905(b) reconnaissance report is scheduled to be complete in March 2008. The 905(b) reconnaissance report will define the problems, needs and opportunities for the study area and demonstrated Federal interest. The District is coordinating with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Ulster County, and with local and Municipal agencies to complete the report and eventually develop and negotiate a Project Management Plan (PMP) for a Feasibility Study.

PROJECT COST:

905 (b) Expedited Reconnaissance Study		\$ 100,000
	Total	\$ 100,000

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District Area: Hinchey (NY-22)